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[A woman is convicted over circumcision. What happens next?](#)

Posted: Fri, 06 Sep 2019 by [Megan Manson](#)

A pharmacist has been convicted for having a baby boy circumcised against his parents' wishes. Megan Manson says the case raises alarming questions over our willingness to defend children's bodily integrity consistently. [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Circumcision](#), [Healthcare](#)

[Doctors who favour legalisation of assisted dying deserve a hearing](#)

Posted: Thu, 04 Jul 2019 by [Dr Antony Lempert](#)

As more doctors' groups consult their members on assisted dying and parliament debates the issue, Dr Antony Lempert says the challenge to the status quo, which is propped up by religious interests, is welcome. [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Assisted dying](#), [Healthcare](#)

[Praying on the vulnerable](#)

Posted: Fri, 24 May 2019 by [Stephen Evans](#)

A ruling that a nurse was not wrongly dismissed for repeatedly evangelising was unsurprising, says Stephen Evans. Healthcare professionals must be prepared to set aside their personal beliefs at work to protect patients. [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Healthcare](#), [Workplace](#), [Christianity](#)

[The BMA's genital cutting guidance is a disturbing departure from evidence-based, patient-centred policy making](#)

Posted: Wed, 27 Feb 2019 by [Dr Antony Lempert](#)

The body which represents doctors has missed the opportunity to take a stand against medically unnecessary child circumcision in its new guidance on the subject, says Dr Antony Lempert. [Read More »](#)

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[The NHS's pastoral support shouldn't be based on religiosity](#)

Posted: Fri, 11 Jan 2019 by [Dr Antony Lempert](#)

Moves to introduce humanist chaplaincy services in some NHS hospitals paper over the cracks in a discriminatory service, Dr Antony Lempert argues. [Read More »](#)

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[Genital cutting: the search for 'health benefits' is disingenuous and inconsistent](#)

Posted: Thu, 27 Sep 2018 by [Brian D. Earp](#)

The principle of bodily autonomy is enough reason to end genital cutting, says Brian D. Earp. Allowing 'health benefits' to dictate its acceptability risks legitimising inconsistent, pseudo-scientific justifications. [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Healthcare](#), [Circumcision](#), [FGM](#)

[Why we must reclaim religious freedom](#)

Posted: Wed, 12 Sep 2018 by [National Secular Society](#)

There is an urgent case for resisting those who claim the mantle of 'religious freedom' without regard for others' rights and freedoms. Here's why our Secularism 2019 conference will be held under the tagline 'reclaiming religious freedom'.

"Everyone has the... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Secularism 2019](#), [Religious freedom](#), [Freedom from Religion](#), [Freedom of Expression](#), [Healthcare](#), [LGBTQ rights](#)

[Religious freedom isn't a licence to violate others' rights](#)

Posted: Thu, 01 Mar 2018 by [Stephen Evans](#)

Increasing clashes between religious orthodoxy and secular liberalism highlight one of the most pressing challenges facing contemporary societies; how to manage the incredible religious and

cultural diversity that exist within them. This throws up important... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Circumcision](#), [Healthcare](#)

[How cutting cultures deny dissenters their voice and identity](#)

Posted: Fri, 23 Feb 2018 by [Dr Antony Lempert](#)

As Icelandic lawmakers consider whether to ban cutting infants' genitals for non-medical reasons, Dr Antony Lempert reflects on the ferocious backlash to the proposal in the UK.

This week non-therapeutic childhood male circumcision has hit the UK headlines... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Circumcision](#), [Healthcare](#)

[Ireland's hospitals: some welcome secularisation](#)

Posted: Fri, 01 Sep 2017 by [Keith Porteous Wood](#)

NSS executive director Keith Porteous Wood detects a long-overdue and decisive turn towards secularism in publicly funded healthcare in Ireland, an area in which the Catholic Church has until now been predominant.

The Catholic Church in Ireland has, until recently,... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Ireland](#), [Healthcare](#), [Catholic Church](#)

[Abortion ruling is a missed opportunity to recognise the disparity in women's reproductive health rights across the UK](#)

Posted: Thu, 15 Jun 2017 by [Dr Antony Lempert](#)

Ensuring that NHS abortion services are made available, free of charge, to UK citizens travelling from Northern Ireland would be a way of mitigating the harm caused by a disparity in women's reproductive health rights across the UK, argues Dr Antony Lempert.... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Gender Equality](#), [Healthcare](#), [Reproductive Rights](#), [Abortion](#)

[Irish National Maternity Hospital: "Keep your rosaries off my ovaries!"](#)

Posted: Mon, 05 Jun 2017 by [Keith Porteous Wood](#)

The determination to give a hospital to a disgraced religious order, in spite of public outrage, is the very antithesis of secularism. But the episode has prompted calls for fundamental changes in the

relationship between church and state, writes Keith Porteous... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Catholic Church](#), [Ireland](#), [Healthcare](#), [Reproductive Rights](#)

Stop pharmacies refusing prescriptions for emergency contraception on religious grounds

Posted: Fri, 17 Feb 2017 by [Keith Porteous Wood](#)

With the regulator considering curtailing 'conscience' objections to contraception prescriptions, Keith Porteous Wood urges supporters to respond to the consultation in the interests of vulnerable patients.

The General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) has launched... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Secular Medical Forum](#), [Healthcare](#), [Reproductive Rights](#)

Sister Sarah Kuteh: up steps the next so called victim of 'Christian persecution'

Posted: Wed, 14 Dec 2016 by [Stephen Evans](#)

It has been another week in which we've seen Christians in the Middle East [losing their lives](#) to violence and persecution, but much media attention in the UK has instead focussed around the plight of a nurse, supposedly sacked for "offering to pray with her... [Read More »](#)

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Forced cutting of young boys' genitals violates the most fundamental medical ethics

Posted: Mon, 24 Oct 2016 by [Dr Antony Lempert](#)

Too often those who carry out forced cutting of young boys' genitals escape with gentle admonishment, rather than punishment commensurate with the severity of their actions, writes Dr Antony Lempert of the Secular Medical Forum.

In 2013, Dr Hassan Abdulla,... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Circumcision](#), [Secular Medical Forum](#), [Healthcare](#)

Channel 4's Dispatches reveals intimidating tactics of US-inspired anti-abortion campaigners

Posted: Thu, 06 Oct 2016 by [Dr Antony Lempert](#)

Dr Antony Lempert of the Secular Medical Forum reacts to Channel 4 Dispatches' programme that showed the shock tactics UK anti-abortion campaigners are importing from America.

This week's Channel 4's Dispatches, presented by Cathy Newman, went undercover among...
[Read More »](#)

Tags: [Abortion](#), [Healthcare](#), [Secular Medical Forum](#), [Reproductive Rights](#)

NHS pastoral care should be a non-discriminatory service for all

Posted: Thu, 16 Jul 2015 by [Stephen Evans](#)

If NHS Trusts want to provide pastoral care for all, then there is no rationale for restricting the role of chaplain to those of faith, argues Stephen Evans.

God forbid – but if you or any your family end up in hospital, and feel the need for some emotional... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Healthcare](#), [Chaplaincy](#)

The Christian “fired for praying at work” – here’s the other side of the story

Posted: Thu, 23 Apr 2015 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

The British media unquestioningly promulgates the false narrative of Christians being discriminated against in the workplace. Terry Sanderson looks at the latest case involving a Christian disciplined for subjecting a subordinate to unwanted and intrusive... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Equality & Human Rights](#), [Discrimination](#), [Healthcare](#)

The dishonesty of religious lobbying shines like a beacon

Posted: Tue, 03 Feb 2015 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

NSS President Terry Sanderson argues that the churches have changed their lobbying tactics, and are trying to impose their doctrines through misdirection and 'slippery slope' arguments.

The reaction of the Church of England and the Catholic Church to the debate... [Read More »](#)

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The reaction of the Church of England and the Catholic Church to the debate... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Christianity](#), [Healthcare](#), [Church of England](#), [Catholic Church](#)

[It's the Church's Christian duty to support the health service, not leech off it](#)

Posted: Mon, 13 May 2013 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

The Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, Vincent Nichols, says that hospital chaplaincy services "*ought never to be seen as a luxury to be discarded when budgets are tight; or chapels as spaces to be sacrificed to other purposes when needs arise.*"

Speaking at... [Read More »](#)

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[Cracks appearing in NHS, but chaplains sail on regardless](#)

Posted: Wed, 28 Nov 2012 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

Horror stories about the state of the National Health Service are an almost daily occurrence now. Latest is a [report from the Kings Fund](#) issued this week. The think tank warned that "cracks are beginning to appear" as waiting times creep up, and hospitals... [Read More »](#)

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[The Church of England should act now if it wants to save its hospital chaplaincy service](#)

Posted: Tue, 06 Nov 2012 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

The following message appeared recently on the social networking site [Gransnet](#):

"Went with a friend for her Chemo session. A chap who was a spiritual healer, wearing

a chaplaincy badge, was approaching, one by one, everyone who was having chemo treatment, asking... [Read More »](#)

Tags: [Charity](#), [Healthcare](#), [Chaplaincy](#), [Big Society](#), [Church of England](#), [public funding](#)

Hospitals axed, wages cut, frontline staff dispensed with – but Chaplains are sitting pretty

Posted: Sat, 15 Sep 2012 by [Terry Sanderson](#)

Several alarming headlines over the past few weeks have indicated that hospitals up and down the country are about to close and that those that stay open will have [savage staff culls and wage cuts](#).

- *Telegraph: [Plans to close hospitals "dangerous and flawed"...](#) [Read More »](#)*

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Male circumcision is an unwarranted breach of a child's integrity – just like FGM

Posted: Tue, 31 Jul 2012 by [Kenneth Houston](#)

The Muslim-Jewish alliance of religious 'leaders' who condemned the recent German court ruling in Cologne on male circumcision stands as a testament to the need for secularism. The court had decided that the right of individuals to freely express their religious... [Read More »](#)

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